

Valle Crucis Community Council

Meeting minutes – Thursday, May 25, 2023

Attendees: JD Dooley, Scott Jensen, Walter Browning, Alyson Browett, John LaCapra, Erin Welsh, Julie Gates

Special attendee: Major Kelly Redmon – Watauga County Sheriff's Department

Not Present: Howell Cook, Tracey Heiss

- Council members approved the minutes from the April 2023 meeting.
- Major Kelly Redmon of the Watauga Sheriff's Department attended the meeting to discuss public safety in the Valle Crucis community. Walter Browning began by summarizing objectives of the infrastructure sub-committee within the community council. Council members discussed issues with speeding, pedestrian safety, etc. Major Redmon shared information on grants from the Governor's Crime Commission and Governor's Highway Safety Commission as a possible source of funds for radar speed limit signs for the community. Major Redmon agreed to write the grant for the council. He agreed to investigate the source and cost of radar signage obtained by Blowing Rock and Banner Elk communities and share information with the VCCC. Redmon offered to work on a five-year plan for the Valle Crucis community regarding public safety and enforcement. Redmon shared that the sheriff's department is currently four people short within the department. Questions that came up during this discussion: Does Broadstone Road have the North Carolina Scenic By-Way designation? Alyson Browett and Scott Jensen offered to serve as direct points of contact for Major Redmon.

Major Redmon shared other hot topics related to crime and public safety including telephone scams, drugs, etc. Public service information related to these issues will be added to the VCCC website.
- The council discussed a community survey that would gather input from stakeholders in Valle Crucis as a step in the process of updating the Valle Crucis strategic plan. Erin Welsh is authoring the survey with input from council members. This survey is an educational opportunity that will raise awareness of priorities within the Valle Crucis community, create allies within the community and help build an email database. Based on feedback from council members, Erin will finalize the survey by the end of May.
- Council members agreed to move the Valle Crucis Community Council website to the www.vallecrucis.com site. JD Dooley will make this change. Users can reach the community council website by either going to the vallecrucis.com site and clicking on the community council's link or using www.vallecruciscommunitycouncil.org.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 29th at 6:00 PM at the Valle Crucis Community Park meeting room.